

REMARKS

Claims 1-22 and 28-69 are all the claims pending in the present application, claims 23-27 having been canceled in accordance with the foregoing amendment. Claims 1-22 and 31-69 are allowed. Applicants thank the Examiner for acknowledging that claims 28-30 are directed to allowable subject matter, and note that claim 28 has been rewritten in independent form as set forth above.

Applicants submit that the present application is currently in condition for allowance. The Examiner is encourage to telephone the undersigned at 858-509-4007 if it is believed that a discussion will expedite disposition of this application.

Please charge any fees associated with the submission of this paper to Deposit Account Number 502212. The Commissioner for Patents is also authorized to credit any over payments to the above-referenced Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,  
PILLSBURY WINTHROP LLP



VICTOR J. CASTELLUCCI  
Reg. No. 43,535  
Tel. No. 858. 509.4007  
Fax No. 858 509.5010

Date: January 6, 2005  
11682 El Camino Real  
Suite 200  
San Diego, CA 92130-2092  
(619) 234-5000